

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method for purifying hemoglobin from red blood cells, wherein the red blood cells are deep-frozen and preserved, and then purified.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of deep-freezing and preserving the red blood cells comprises a step of preserving the extracted red blood cells at 4°C through 10°C, a step of washing the red blood cells, a step of deep-freezing the washed red blood cells, and a step of preserving the deep-frozen red blood cells in a frozen state.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the term from the red blood cells are extracted until deep-frozen is 1 through 60 days.
4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2 ~~or 3~~, wherein the step of deep-freezing the red blood cells and the step of preserving the red blood cells in the frozen state are performed at a temperature of -60°C or lower.
5. (New) A method according to claim 3, wherein the step of deep-freezing the red blood cells and the step of preserving the red blood cells in the frozen state are performed at a temperature of -60°C or lower.